

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 2 and 11, without prejudice; amend Claims 1, 10 and 12 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting device comprising:
  - a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate;
  - a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate; ~~and plate;~~
  - a polarization separation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit, for transmitting linearly polarized light in a first polarized direction and reflecting linearly polarized light in a polarized direction normal to the first polarized ~~direction, direction; and~~
  - a phase modulation element disposed between the light source unit and the polarization separation element,  
the light source unit including a pillar-shaped light guide which light exits at a first side surface, a spot light emission source disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and a reflecting layer disposed on a second side surface of a prism surface opposed to the first side surface for reflecting light from the spot light emission source, where said reflecting layer is shaped to correspond to said prism surface and is comprised of one of a metal film or a multi-layer film.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A lighting device comprising:  
a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate;  
a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, said light source unit including a prism surface for emitting linearly polarized light from said light source unit without the use of a polarization separation element; and  
a phase modulation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit.

8. (Previously Presented) A lighting device according to claim 7, wherein

the light source unit includes a spot light emission source and a pillar-shaped light guide, where said pillar-shaped light guide includes said prism surface, and  
the spot light emission source is disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and light exits the pillar-shaped light guide at a first side surface.

9. (Previously Presented) A lighting device according to claim 8, wherein a second side surface opposed to the first side surface is said prism surface.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:  
a liquid crystal panel;  
a lighting device including a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate, a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, and a polarization separation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit, for transmitting linearly polarized light in a first polarized direction and reflecting linearly polarized light in a polarized direction normal to the first polarized direction, direction; and

a first phase modulation element disposed between the light source unit and the polarization separation element,

the light source unit including a pillar-shaped light guide which light exits at a first side surface, a spot light emission source disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and a reflecting layer disposed on a second side surface of a prism surface opposed to the first side surface for reflecting light from the spot light emission source, where said reflecting layer is shaped to correspond to said prism surface and is comprised of one of a metal film or a multi-layer film.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to ~~claim 10 or 11, claim 10~~, comprising a second phase modulation element disposed between the liquid crystal panel and the lighting device.

13. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising:  
a liquid crystal panel;  
a lighting device including a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate;  
a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, said light source  
unit including a prism surface for emitting linearly polarized light from said light source unit  
without the use of a polarization separation element; and  
a phase modulation element disposed between the light guide plate and the  
light source unit.

14. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to  
claim 13, wherein  
the light source unit includes a spot light emission source and a pillar-shaped  
light guide, where said pillar-shaped light guide includes said prism surface, and  
the spot light emission source is disposed on the end surface of the pillar-  
shaped light guide, and light exits the pillar-shaped light guide at a first side surface.

15. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to  
claim 14, wherein a second side surface opposed to the first side surface is said prism surface.